



**BILLING CODE (3410-XY-U)**

**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

**Rural Business-Cooperative Service**

**Inviting Applications for the Rural Economic Development Loan and Grant Program for Fiscal Year 2012**

**AGENCY:** Rural Business-Cooperative Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** This Notice is to invite applications for loans and grants under the Rural Economic Development Loan and Grant (REDLG) program pursuant to 7 CFR part 4280, subpart A for Fiscal Year (FY) 2012. Funding to support \$33 million in loans and \$10 million in grants is currently available. The commitment of program dollars will be made to applicants of selected responses that have fulfilled the necessary requirements for obligation. Expenses incurred in developing applications will be at the applicant's risk.

**DATES:** The deadline for receipt of applications in the USDA Rural Development State Office is no later than 4:30 p.m. (local time) on the last business day of each month in FY 2012.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit applications in paper format to the USDA Rural Development State Office in the state where your project is located. A list of the USDA Rural Development State Offices addresses and telephone numbers are as follows:

**Alabama**

USDA Rural Development State Office  
Sterling Centre, Suite 601  
4121 Carmichael Road  
Montgomery, AL 36106-3683  
(334) 279-3400/TDD (334) 279-3495

**Alaska**

USDA Rural Development State Office  
800 West Evergreen, Suite 201  
Palmer, AK 99645-6539  
(907) 761-7707/TDD (907) 761-8905

**Arizona**

USDA Rural Development State Office  
230 North First Avenue, Suite 206  
Phoenix, AZ 85003-1706  
(602) 280-8702/TDD (602) 280-8705

**Arkansas**

USDA Rural Development State Office  
Federal Building  
700 West Capitol Avenue, Room 3416  
Little Rock, AR 72201-3225  
(501) 301-3200/TDD (501) 301-3279

**California**

USDA Rural Development State Office  
430 G Street, Agency 4169  
Davis, CA 95616-4169  
(530) 792-5800/TDD (530) 792-5848

**Colorado**

USDA Rural Development State Office  
Denver Federal Center  
Building 56, Room 2300  
P.O. Box 25426  
Denver, CO 80225-0426  
(720) 544-2903/TDD (800) 659-3656

**Delaware-Maryland**

USDA Rural Development State Office  
1221 College Park Drive, Suite 200  
Dover, DE 19904-8724  
(302) 857-3580/TDD (302) 857-3585

**Florida/Virgin Islands**

USDA Rural Development State Office  
4440 NW 25th Place  
P.O. Box 147010  
Gainesville, FL 32614-7010  
(352) 338-3400/TDD (352) 338-3499

**Georgia**

USDA Rural Development State Office  
Stephens Federal Building  
355 East Hancock Avenue, Stop 300  
Athens, GA 30601-2768  
(706) 546-2162/TDD (706) 546-2034

**Hawaii**

USDA Rural Development State Office  
Federal Building, Room 311  
154 Waianuenue Avenue  
Hilo, HI 96720-2486  
(808) 933-8302/TDD (808) 933-8321

**Idaho**

USDA Rural Development State Office  
9173 West Barnes Drive, Suite A1  
Boise, ID 83709-1574  
(208) 378-5601/TDD (208) 378-5644

**Illinois**

USDA Rural Development State Office  
2118 West Park Court, Suite A  
Champaign, IL 61821-2986  
(217) 403-6200/TDD (217) 403-6240

**Indiana**

USDA Rural Development State Office  
5975 Lakeside Boulevard  
Indianapolis, IN 46278-1996  
(317) 290-3100 ext. 4/TDD (317) 290-3343

**Iowa**

USDA Rural Development State Office  
Federal Building, Room 873  
210 Walnut Street  
Des Moines, IA 50309-2117  
(515) 284-4663/TDD (515) 284-4858

**Kansas**

USDA Rural Development State Office  
1303 SW First American Place, Suite 100  
Topeka, KS 66604-4040  
(785) 271-2700/TDD (785) 271-2767

**Kentucky**

USDA Rural Development State Office  
771 Corporate Drive, Suite 200  
Lexington, KY 40503-5439  
(859) 224-7300/TDD (859) 224-7422

**Louisiana**

USDA Rural Development State Office  
3727 Government Street  
Alexandria, LA 71302-3327  
(318) 473-7920/TDD (318) 473-7655

**Maine**

USDA Rural Development State Office  
967 Illinois Avenue, Suite 4  
P.O. Box 405  
Bangor, ME 04402-0405  
(207) 990-9160/TDD (207) 942-7331

**Massachusetts/Rhode Island/Connecticut**

USDA Rural Development State Office  
451 West Street, Suite 2  
Amherst, MA 01002-2999  
(413) 253-4300/TDD (413) 253-4590

**Michigan**

USDA Rural Development State Office  
3001 Coolidge Road, Suite 200  
East Lansing, MI 48823-6350  
(517) 324-5190/TDD (517) 324-5169

**Minnesota**

USDA Rural Development State Office  
410 Agri-Bank Building  
375 Jackson Street, Suite 410  
St. Paul, MN 55101-1853  
(651) 602-7800/TDD (651) 602-3799

**Mississippi**

USDA Rural Development State Office  
Federal Building, Suite 831  
100 West Capitol Street  
Jackson, MS 39269-1608  
(601) 965-4211/TDD (601) 965-5850

**Missouri**

USDA Rural Development State Office  
601 Business Loop 70 West  
Parkade Center, Suite 235  
Columbia, MO 65203-2579  
(573) 876-0987/TDD (573) 876-9480

**Montana**

USDA Rural Development State Office  
2229 Boot Hill Court  
P.O. Box 850  
Bozeman, MT 59718-4011  
(406) 585-2580/TDD (406) 585-2562

**Nebraska**

USDA Rural Development State Office  
Federal Building, Room 152  
100 Centennial Mall North  
Lincoln, NE 68508-3803  
(308)632-2195/TDD (402) 437-5093

**Nevada**

USDA Rural Development State Office  
1390 South Curry Street  
Carson City, NV 89703-5146  
(775) 887-1222/TDD (775) 885-0633

**New Jersey**

USDA Rural Development State Office  
5<sup>th</sup> Floor North, Suite 500  
8000 Midlantic Drive  
Mt. Laurel, NJ 08054-1522  
(856) 787-7700/TDD (856) 787-7784

**New Mexico**

USDA Rural Development State Office  
6200 Jefferson Street, Room 255  
Albuquerque, NM 87109-3434  
(505) 761-4950/TDD (505) 761-4938

**New York**

USDA Rural Development State Office  
The Galleries of Syracuse  
441 South Salina Street, Suite 357  
Syracuse, NY 13202-2541  
(315) 477-6435/TDD (315) 477-6447

**North Carolina**

USDA Rural Development State Office  
4405 Bland Road, Suite 260  
Raleigh, NC 27609-6293  
(919) 873-2015/TDD (919) 873-2003

**North Dakota**

USDA Rural Development State Office  
Federal Building, Room 208  
220 East Rosser  
P.O. Box 1737  
Bismarck, ND 58502-1737  
(701) 530-2037/TDD (701) 530-2113

**Ohio**

USDA Rural Development State Office  
Federal Building, Room 507  
200 North High Street  
Columbus, OH 43215-2418  
(614) 255-2400/TDD (614) 255-2554

**Oklahoma**

USDA Rural Development State Office  
100 USDA, Suite 108  
Stillwater, OK 74074-2654  
(405) 742-1000/TDD (405) 742-1007

**Oregon**

USDA Rural Development State Office  
1201 Northeast Lloyd Blvd., Suite 801  
Portland, OR 97232-1274  
(503) 414-3305/TDD (503) 414-3387

**Pennsylvania**

USDA Rural Development State Office  
One Credit Union Place, Suite 330  
Harrisburg, PA 17110-2996  
(717) 237-2262/TDD (717) 237-2261

**Puerto Rico**

USDA Rural Development State Office  
IBM Building, Suite 601  
654 Munos Rivera Avenue  
San Juan, PR 00918-6106  
(787) 766-5095/TDD (787) 766-5332

**South Carolina**

USDA Rural Development State Office  
Strom Thurmond Federal Building  
1835 Assembly Street, Room 1007  
Columbia, SC 29201-2449  
(803) 765-5163/TDD (803) 765-5697

**South Dakota**

USDA Rural Development State Office  
Federal Building, Room 210  
200 Fourth Street, SW  
Huron, SD 57350-2461  
(605) 352-1100/TDD (605) 352-1147

**Tennessee**

USDA Rural Development State Office  
3322 West End Avenue, Suite 300  
Nashville, TN 37203-1071  
(615) 783-1300

**Texas**

USDA Rural Development State Office  
Federal Building, Suite 102  
101 South Main  
Temple, TX 76501-7651  
(254) 742-9700/TDD (254) 742-9712

**Utah**

USDA Rural Development State Office  
Wallace F. Bennett Federal Building  
125 South State Street, Room 4311  
Salt Lake City, UT 84138  
(801) 524-4321/TDD (801) 524-3309

**Vermont/New Hampshire**

USDA Rural Development State Office  
City Center, 3rd Floor  
89 Main Street  
Montpelier, VT 05602-4449  
(802) 828-6080/TDD (802) 223-6365

**Virginia**

USDA Rural Development State Office  
Culpeper Building, Suite 238  
1606 Santa Rosa Road  
Richmond, VA 23229-5014  
(804) 287-1552/TDD (804) 287-1753

**Washington**

USDA Rural Development State Office  
1835 Black Lake Boulevard SW, Suite B  
Olympia, WA 98512-5715  
(360) 704-7740/TDD (360) 704-7760

**West Virginia**

USDA Rural Development State Office  
1550 Earl Core Road, Suite 101  
Morgantown, WV 26505-7500  
(304) 284-4860/TDD (304) 284-4836

**Wisconsin**

USDA Rural Development State Office  
4949 Kirschling Court  
Stevens Point, WI 54481-7044  
(715) 345-7600/TDD (715) 345-7614



**Wyoming**

USDA Rural Development State Office  
P.O. Box 11005  
100 East B Street, Room 1005  
Casper, WY 82601-5006  
(307) 233-6703/TDD (307) 233-6733

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** The Rural Development State Office identified in this Notice where the project will be located.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:****Overview**

*Federal Agency:* Rural Business-Cooperative Service.

*Funding Opportunity Type:* Rural Economic Development Loans and Grants.

*Announcement Type:* Initial Announcement.

*Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number:* 10.854.

*Dates:* Application Deadline: Completed applications must be received in the State Office by 4:30 p.m. (local time) on the last business day of each month in FY 2012.

**I. Funding Opportunity Description**

The regulations for these programs are at 7 CFR part 4280, subpart A.

The primary objective of the program is to promote rural economic development and job creation projects. Assistance provided to rural areas, as defined, under this program may include business startup costs, business expansion, business incubators, technical assistance feasibility studies, advanced telecommunications services and computer networks for medical, educational, and job training services and community facilities

projects for economic development. Awards are made on a competitive basis using specific selection criteria contained in 7 CFR part 4280, subpart A. Information required to be in the application includes an SF-424, "Application for Federal Assistance;" a Resolution of the Board of Directors; AD-1047, "Debarment/Suspension Certification;" Assurance Statement for the Uniform Act; Restrictions on Lobbying, AD 1049, "Certification Regarding Drug-Free Workplace Requirements;" Form RD 400-1, "Equal Opportunity Agreement;" Form RD 400-4, "Assurance Agreement;" Seismic Certification (if construction); Form RD 1940-20, "Request for Environmental Information;" RUS Form 7, "Financial and Statistical Report;" and RUS Form 7a, "Investments, Loan Guarantees, and Loans," or similar information; and written narrative of project description. Applications will be tentatively scored by the State Offices and submitted to the National Office for review.

### *Definitions*

The definitions are published at 7 CFR 4280.3.

## **II. Award Information**

*Type of Awards:* Loans and Grants.

*Fiscal Year Funds:* FY 2012.

*Maximum Anticipated Award:* Loans - \$1,000,000; Grant - \$300,000.

*Anticipated Award Dates:* The last day of the month following the month in which application was received.

### **III. Eligibility Information**

#### *A. Eligible Applicants*

Loans and grants may be made to any entity that is identified by USDA Rural Development as an eligible borrower under the Rural Electrification Act. In accordance with 7 CFR 4280.13, applicants that are not delinquent on any Federal debt or otherwise disqualified from participation in these programs are eligible to apply. An applicant must be eligible under 7 U.S.C. 940c.

#### *B. Cost Sharing or Matching*

For loans, either the Ultimate Recipient or the Intermediary must provide supplemental funds for the project equal to at least 20 percent of the loan to the Intermediary. For grants, the Intermediary must establish a Revolving Loan Fund and contribute an amount equal to at least 20 percent of the Grant. The supplemental contribution must come from Intermediary's funds which may not be from other Federal Grants, unless permitted by law.

#### *C. Other Eligibility Requirements*

Applications will only be accepted for projects that promote rural economic development and job creation.

#### *D. Completeness Eligibility*

Applications will not be considered for funding if they do not provide sufficient information to determine eligibility or are missing required elements.

#### **IV. Fiscal Year 2012 Application and Submission Information:**

##### *A. Address to Request Application Package*

For further information, entities wishing to apply for assistance should contact the Rural Development State Office identified in this Notice to obtain copies of the application package.

Applicants are encouraged to submit applications through the Grants.gov Web site at:

<http://www.grants.gov>. Applications may be submitted in either electronic or paper format. Users of Grants.gov will be able to download a copy of the application package, complete it off line, and then upload and submit the application via the Grants.gov Web site. Applications may not be submitted by electronic mail.

- When you enter the Grants.gov Web site, you will find information about submitting an application electronically through the site as well as the hours of operation. USDA Rural Development strongly recommends that you do not wait until the application deadline date to begin the application process through Grants.gov. To use Grants.gov, applicants must have a Dun and Bradstreet Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number which can be obtained at no cost via a toll-free request line at 1-866-705-5711 or at <http://www.dnb.com>.
- You may submit all documents electronically through the Web site, including all information typically included on the application for REDLGs and all necessary assurances and certifications.
- After electronically submitting an application through the Web site, the applicant will receive an automatic acknowledgement from Grants.gov that contains a Grants.gov tracking number.

- USDA Rural Development may request that the applicant provide original signatures on forms at a later date.
- If applicants experience technical difficulties on the closing date and are unable to meet the deadline, you may submit a paper copy of your application to your respective Rural Development State Office. Paper applications submitted to a Rural Development State Office must meet the closing date and local time deadline.

Please note that applicants must locate the downloadable application package for this program by the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number or FedGrants Funding Opportunity Number, which can be found at <http://www.grants.gov>.

#### *B. Content and Form of Submission*

An application must contain all of the required elements. Each selection priority criterion outlined in 7 CFR 4280.42(b), must be addressed in the application. Failure to address any of the criteria will result in a zero-point score for that criterion and will impact the overall evaluation of the application. Copies of 7 CFR part 4280, subpart A, will be provided to any interested applicant making a request to a Rural Development State Office listed in this notice.

#### *C. Submission Dates and Times*

*Application Deadline Dates:* 4:30 p.m. (local time) on the last business day of each month.

*Explanation of Deadlines:* Applications must be in the Rural Development State Office by the deadline dates as indicated above.

## **V. Application Review Information**

The National Office will score applications based on the grant selection criteria and weights contained in 7 CFR part 4280, subpart A, and will select an Intermediary subject to the Intermediary's satisfactory submission of the additional items required by 7 CFR part 4280, subpart A, and the USDA Rural Development Letter of Conditions.

## **VI. Award Administration Information**

### *A. Award Notices*

Successful applicants will receive notification for funding from the Rural Development State Office. Applicants must comply with all applicable statutes and regulations before the loan/grant award will be approved. Provided the application requirements have not changed, an application not selected will be reconsidered in three subsequent funding competitions for a total of four competitions. If an application is withdrawn, it can be resubmitted and will be evaluated as a new application.

### *B. Administrative and National Policy Requirements*

Additional requirements that apply to Intermediary's selected for this program can be found in 7 CFR part 4280, subpart A. Applicable provisions of 7 CFR parts 3015, 3019, and 3052 also apply.

## **VII. Agency Contacts**

For general questions about this announcement, please contact your Rural Development State Office identified in this Notice.

## **VIII. Paperwork Reduction Act**

In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the information collection requirement contained in this Notice is approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) under OMB Control Number 0570-0024.

## **Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act**

All grant applicants, in accordance with 2 CFR part 25, must have a Dun and Bradstreet Data Universal Number System (DUNS) number, which can be obtained at no cost via a toll-free request line at 1-866-705-5711 or online at <http://fedgov.dnb.com/webor>. Similarly, in accordance with 2 CFR part 25, all applicants must be registered in the Central Contractor Registration (CCR) prior to submitting an application. Applicants may register for the CCR at <http://www.ccr.gov> by calling 1-866-606-8220 and press “1” for CCR. All recipients of Federal financial grant assistance are required to report information about first-tier sub-awards and executive total compensation in accordance with 2 CFR Part 170.

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communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD).

To file a complaint of discrimination, write to USDA, Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Stop 9410, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call toll-free at (866) 632-9992 (English) or (800) 877-8339 (TTD) or (866) 377-8642 (English Federal-relay) or (800) 845-6136 (Spanish Federal-relay). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

/s/  
JUDITH A. CANALES  
Administrator  
Rural Business-Cooperative Service

February 23, 2012  
DATE

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